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APR 0 1 2003 APR 0 1 2003

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HUESCHEN AND SAGE

Dated: APRIL 2003

PF 83 PCT SEQ

Applicant

Laurent CHEVALET, et al.

RECEIVED

Serial No.

09/673,288

APR 1 1 2003

Filed

December 7, 2000

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Title

Novel Constructs for Controlled Expression of Recombinant

Proteins in Prokaryotic Cells.

Art Unit

1636

Examiner

Konstantina KATCHEVES, Esq.

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.111 AND 1.115

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated October 1, 2002, as to which the period for response has been extended by three (3) months by payment of the appropriate fee, kindly amend as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS: See amended Claim 17 attached hereto in both "Clean" and "Marked-Up" forms.

<u>REMARKS</u>

The Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's Office Action with appreciation. In addition, the Applicants acknowledge the Office's withdrawal of outstanding rejections under 35 USC §§ 103(a) and 112, second paragraph. Claims 1-21 remain under consideration. The Office maintains rejections under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph.